

County News

***** Go Green for the Holidays with MSU Extension *****

Want to incorporate green living ideas into your holiday celebrations? Learn how to be environmentally friendly, save time and money, and reduce your stress this holiday season by attending the MSU Extension program, "Go Green for the Holidays with MSU Extension". The program is being held at the MSUE Offices in the VerKuilen Building, 21885 Dunham Rd., Clinton Township, 48036 on Wednesday, December 9th, from 6:30 – 8:00pm. The program is geared to adults and youth or for family participation. We will be talking about gifts and activities for the holidays, Mary Grettenberger and School Section 4-H youth will help us with an environmental craft, and we will be learning about healthy food choices for the holidays. Please RSVP by December 7th to the MSUE office, 586-469-6430 or email Mary at gerste10@msu.edu.

*****4-H Impact Survey*****

We would like to get your feedback on how 4-H has impacted both youth and adults. The survey should take no more than 5 minutes to complete. Your input will help evaluate our County's 4-H Youth Program. So far only 10 people completed the survey. In order to share the positive impact of 4-H with our stakeholders and potential funders we need your participation. The survey results will be shared with Macomb County Board of Commissioners, Michigan State 4-H Office, our 4-H Council and families and incorporated into various grants. We would appreciate if you complete the survey by **Monday, December 21**. To access the survey go to the following link:

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=x_2fp_2fAFWSwD1Rsn3jVhQZzQ_3d_3d

Thank you so much for your input.

*****Armada Fair Survey*****

Your input is important to us. So far only 20 people have provided their input. Please take a few minutes before **Monday, December 21** to answer a few questions about your experience at last year's fair, vote on next year's 4-H fair theme, and provide suggestions for improvement. In addition, the Armada Fair will be opening a day early-on Monday August 16 and we would like your thoughts on when craft judging should take place. To access the survey go to the following link:

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=CER18ZMQav06c9uoOXk4Zg_3d_3d

***** JCPenney Afterschool Round-Up*******

When you shop at the ROSEVILLE JCPenney store on Gratiot between December 4-13 and round up your purchase to the next whole dollar, the JCPenney Afterschool Fund will donate the difference to the Macomb County **4-H Youth Development Programs**. This is a great opportunity for all of us to support our local 4-H programs by "rounding up" our purchases! Spread the word to your family and friends!

*****Ambassadors invite Clubs to join them for two Community Service Projects *****

All 4-H youth are invited to attend the next Ambassador Club meeting that is scheduled for Thursday, January 13, 2010 from 6:00 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. in assembly rooms A & B at the Verkuilen building. At the meeting you will learn how to make pillow cases that will then be donated to a local hospital for sick children. If you are interested in helping out, please contact Susan Wilkinson at slwilk2003@yahoo.com or call (586) 786-2177 so we can purchase an adequate amount of material for the project.

Also please join the 4-H Ambassadors and mentor programs as we volunteer our time at the Capuchin Soup Kitchen on Saturday, February 27, 2010 from 9am-12pm. We will be meeting at

Capuchin located at 6333 Medbury St., Detroit, 48211. We will be boxing food and sorting clothes for those in need. Please RSVP to Rachel by Thursday, February 25, at 586-783-8163 or rcalca@macombcountymi.gov. Hope to see you there!

*****New Volunteer Orientations*****

All adults who are interested in becoming a screened 4-H volunteer, must attend a new volunteer orientation. Orientations are held at the VerKuilen Building -21885 Dunham, Clinton Township 48036 and have been scheduled for the following dates and times:

Monday, December 21, 3-6 pm (Young adults who have aged out of 4-H are encouraged to attend)
Wednesday, January 20, 6-9 pm
Tuesday, February 9, 6-9 pm

Please RVSP by calling Vickie at 586-469-6431.

*****Got Friends???**

No county award nominations in the category of Friends of 4-H were received this year. We know there are many worthy supporters of our program who should be recognized at the January County Awards Banquet. Consequently, the 4-H staff has decided to extend the deadline for this category and will be accepting nominations through December 11th.

The Friend of 4-H Award recognizes individuals and organizations, who are not 4-H members, but who have demonstrated a commitment to 4-H by making contributions to a club or the county 4-H program on a recurring basis. This contribution may consist of use of facilities, donation of materials or services or direct financial support. "Friends" may be nominated annually for this award. The completed application, which should include the number of years this individual/group has partnered with 4-H and how the Macomb County 4-H Program has benefited from their involvement.

*****Club Officer Training Rescheduled*****

Club Officer Training has been rescheduled for Monday, January 18th, 6-8:30 p.m. at the Extension Office. There will be a general session followed by break out sessions for Presidents/VPs; Treasurers and their adult assistants; Secretaries; Historians and Reporters. Officers interested in attending should call the 4-H Office at 469-6431 or e-mail Anne at anne.crotser@macombcountymi.gov. by Thursday, January 14, 2010. We need your name, office, and club.

State News

*****Michigan 4-H Career Education Web Pages*****

Did you know there are numerous career education activities, handouts, and PowerPoint presentations available on the Michigan 4-H Web site? In case you've missed these great resources, here is the direct link to the "Resources for Educators and Volunteers" page of the site <http://web1.msue.msu.edu/cyf/youth/careers/resources-ed-vol.html>. Be sure to share this Web page with volunteers who want to incorporate workforce prep activities into their club or after school settings. One featured activity is "Where Does It Come From?" an interactive way to encourage youth to explore various career options.

*****MSU Horsemen's Association Upcoming Event*****

The MSU Horsemen's Association will be holding a day of informational sessions and

clinics on Saturday, January 16, 2010 at the MSU Pavilion. Sessions for young people interested in attending MSU, as well as clinics on Western Horsemanship (conducted by MSUET Coach Leesa Massman and team members) and Dressage will also be held. This is a great way to introduce 4-H and MIHA members to the possibilities of continuing their interest in horses in college. Seminars will be held by an admissions officer, the MSU Horsemen's Association, Dressage Club, Polo Club and MSU Equestrian Team.

For complete details on the event and participation in the clinics, please visit:
<https://www.msu.edu/~msuha/>

*****MQHA/MI 4-H Horse Judging Workshop*****

February 5-6 a great opportunity for youth (9 years) or adults to gain experience in Horse Judging. For details about this event visit <http://www.canr.msu.edu/anscikids/> **Registration is due January 26th** for questions contact County Office at 586-469-6090.

*****MI 4-H Horse Program Benefit clinic**

Perfecting the Patterns: Focusing on Showmanship and Horsemanship. Tickets for clinic are \$10 in advance and \$12 at the door. A limited number of youth riders are needed. Application for riders are available on the web site <http://www.canr.msu.edu/anscikids/> for questions contact the County Office at 586-469-6090.

*****New this Year*****

February 6 a State 4-H Equine Public Speaking and Demonstration Contest—The purpose of this event is to offer 4-H members an opportunity to develop public speaking and demonstration skills and an opportunity to qualify for national contests. **Registration is due** in the County 4-H Office by **January 15th**. Please contact the County Office at 586-469-6090 for questions.

*****Michigan 4-H Prepares Youth for Higher Education*****

We now have data that shows that Michigan 4-H prepares youth academically and socially for higher education and creates a pathway to college and workforce success. Michigan 4-H youth are more likely to attend college than their peers and those who participate in a 4-H pre-college program attend college at an even higher rate. And, they're more successful as college students than their peers.

The following data obtained from the National Student Clearinghouse (NSC) Database last month compares Michigan 4-H alumni to state & national same-age students.

Percentage of 18- to 24-Year Olds Enrolled in College

36.7% Michigan*

33.9% Nation*

52.7% 4-H High School Seniors from 2004 to 2009 (N = 10,047)

65.8% 4-H Capitol Experience from 2006 to 2008 (N = 114)

66.1% 4-H Exploration Days from 2004 to 2009 (N = 2,624)

66% 4-H Great Lakes & Natural Resources Camp from 2002 to 2009) (N = 152)

* Source: NCES, IPEDS 2007 Fall Enrollment Survey; U.S. Census Bureau, 2007
<http://www.higheredinfo.org>

*****Special MSU Basketball Event: 4-H Day with the MSU Women's Basketball Team*****

On Sunday, January 9, 2010 at 2:00 p.m., MSU Extension 4-H Youth and their families are invited to join thousands of 4-H'ers from across the state at MSU's Breslin Center to cheer on the MSU Women's Basketball Team as they take on Ohio. This FREE event celebrates 4-H volunteers and youth, and this year, we'll focus on Michigan 4-H Nutrition, Health and Well-Being programs. There

will be activities and displays to help Michigan residents make smart food choices, learn about nutrition and apply what they learn, manage their food budget, manage chronic disease, prevent disease and improve their overall physical, mental and social well-being. For more information, visit the website <http://web1.msue.msu.edu/4h/member/cool.html>
Parking is \$5.00.

Remember to show your MSUE/4-H pride by wearing your green or white 4-H or MSUE apparel.

Let your 4-H leader know you (and how many of your family members) want to attend, or contact Roberta at the county Extension office. You can call her at 586-469-6431 or email Roberta.Busquaert@macombcountymi.gov

*****State 4-H Rabbit and Cavy Show*****

This year's show will be held on January 30, 2010 at the MSU Pavilion and is open to all Michigan 4-H members 9-19 as of January 1, 2010. A non-competitive cloversprout division for 5-8 years of age is also available. On site registration begins at 6:30 am at it will be \$2.75 per class. Other events that will take place at the show include Breed ID, Educational Posters and Displays, Ask the Vet student booth, and Supply Vendors. For more information visit the website at: <http://web1.msue.msu.edu/cyf/youth/aniscipr.html#rabbits>

*****Cultural Diversity Workshop*****

On Tuesday, December 22, the 4-H Programs will be having our annual potluck holiday dinner at the 4-H office from 630-830p.m. We are asking that every family bring a dish to pass that represents their cultures. The 4-H program will provide the main course. We will start off with dinner and afterwards we will share our own cultures and traditions. We live in a very diverse world and it is important to understand, accept, and respect others. We will also have different activities to participate in. RSVP to Rachel by Monday, December 21, at 586-783-8163 or rcalca@macombcountymi.gov

